

2021 Town Meeting Minutes
Town of Sanbornton
State of New Hampshire
May 15, 2021

The 2021 Town Meeting was called to order at 10:14am by the Moderator Lang. This year's Town Meeting was held under a tent in the field behind the Library, Church and Old Town Hall.

Reverend Paula Gile of the Sanbornton Congregational Church was recognized to give the invocation.

Bob Presby led the legislative body in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Melanie VanTassel recognized Bob Presby from the First Fruits Food Pantry. He was recognized for his endless hours and dedication to the pantry. "He gives so much service to our community".

Jim Dick recognized the most recent Boston Post Cane recipient Mr. William Blackwood. Mr. Blackwood passed away on April 15th at the age of one hundred years old. His wife Barbara, the love of his life for seventy years, passed away one week before him. He was an Engineer and worked on the Apollo space program. He was a long-time resident of our town.

The Town will now begin the process of finding our oldest resident.

John Olmstead stated the Honorable Tom Salatiello passed away on Tuesday, May 4th. Tom moved to Sanbornton in 1978. He worked for the State of NH Dept Health & Human services for the past fifty years. Tom was elected to the BOS for a total for 12 years. He was a State Rep for 5 terms. He served on many boards within the Town. Olmstead recognized his wife, Linda. Linda commented "Even though Tom was not a glory seeker he did what he did because he cared about people. I hope others will step up and get involved in our community." The BOS presented a glass award that will be displayed at the Town Office.

The Moderator recognized Ray Masse, Vice Chair of the Budget Committee. He introduced Ralph Rathjen, Bob Presby, and Kate Osgood. (Chairman Weisman was not available for today's meeting.)

The Moderator recognized Chairman Olmstead to introduce Selectmen James Dick, and Robert Lambert, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Juliana Lonergan, Town Administrator Trish Stafford and Town Attorney Steve Bennett.

Moderator recognized Don Bormes, Richard Gardner, and Karen Cobb as Assistant Moderators.

Moderator Lang, recognized Dennis Fields for his service in the US Navy and serving (6) six terms as a State Representative for Sanbornton. Dennis served (8) eight terms in Merrimack for a total of fourteen terms in the house.

The Moderator read the election results of the November 2020 General Elections. In November we had 2062 voters which is a new Town Record. March 2021 Town Elections results were read.

Voters were reminded to check in with the Supervisors of the Check list to obtain a voting card.

The Moderator went over the rules that would be followed during the meeting.

Article 1: Long-Term Borrowing for Construction of New Town Office Building, Construction of an Access Drive, and Renovation of the Current Town Office Building to Become the Sanbornton Police Station

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Million Nine Hundred Eighty-One Thousand One Hundred Fifty-Two Dollars (\$2,981,152) (gross budget) for the construction and equipping of a

new town office building on the Town-owned land behind Old Town Hall (Tax Map 26 Lots 45 and/or 47), construction of a new access drive through the Town-owned property in Tax Map 26 Lot 67, and the conversion and equipping of the current Town Office building as a police station; Two Million Two Hundred Eight Thousand Five Hundred Seventeen Dollars (\$2,208,517) of such sum to be raised through the issuance of bonds or notes under and in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); to authorize the Selectmen to apply for, obtain, and accept federal, state, or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; to authorize the Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon for a 10-year maturity and other terms thereof; and to authorize the Selectmen to take any other action necessary to carry out this vote or to pass any other vote relative thereto; furthermore, to authorize the withdrawal of Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$600,000) from the Town's Unassigned Fund Balance for use on this project and to authorize the withdrawal of One Hundred Seventy-Two Thousand Six Hundred Thirty-Five Dollars (\$172,635) from the Town Building Improvement & Design Capital Reserve Fund for use on this project.

(3/5 majority vote required)

This Warrant Article is designated as a Special Warrant Article.

Recommended by the Selectmen – Recommended by the Budget Committee (7 - Yes, 0 - No)

Moved by Selectman James Dick

Second by Ray Masse

Selectman James Dick spoke to Article 1, for the past 18 months he has been part of the Building Committee. He sent accolades to the Building Committee for their dedication Brendan Morrison, Steven Cobb, Ken Carleton, Chuck Flanders and Chair Nina Gardner. The Committee held sixty-one regular meetings, and eight public presentations. Dick introduced Gardner to speak to Article One.

Gardner explained that 35 years ago Sanbornton built the Life Safety building. There has been no new building since. In that project the Police Dept. went from one room in the Old Town Hall to three rooms in the Life Safety Building. 1964 the current Town Office building was built for the Fire Dept. out of concrete and steel. The building is well suited for the Police Dept.

The proposal before you I call "Sanbornton Light" it's a smaller version and half the cost of the 2019 project that did not pass.

The Committee was charged to address the Town's needs as it pertains to space and facilities. The committee feels this building project will meet the Town's needs for the next twenty-five years. The current Town Offices are not handicapped accessible, there are water pipes running through the safe; there is only one bathroom, no potable water, inadequate parking, and poor HVAC. The current Police Department building is not secure and does not have its own bathrooms, or water. They must share with Fire Department and it is not safe when bringing prisoners into the building. The Committee listened to the input from the community concerning tax rate, security and length of bond and privacy. The Police Dept will get three times the space than they currently have and adding no new staff the Town Office space increase by 10 -20% with again no new staff. This building will meet the needs of our community. As of right now the Town has spent \$4,500.00 with Bonnet Page and Stone on architectural fees.

Selectman, James Dick spoke to the Article One. James Dick stated the total amount of the projected \$2,981,152. This will be a 10-year bond. The current bond interest rate is 0.81%. For planning, the Committee has been using an interest rate ¼ percent higher, which would make the total interest around \$145,000. Building design and capital reserve funds will be used to offset this project. Plans also to use some of the unassigned fund balance. Dick explained how the fund balance works and how the fund is used. Also, the Town is expecting a refund in the amount of \$788,00.00 from the State of NH for the Lower Bay project in which they

agreed to pay 80%. Of that money \$188,000 will go into the unassigned fund balance. The cost on the tax rate for this project is .11 cents/thousand increase on the tax rate. Two bond payments are expiring one is the Highway Garage and other is Maple Circle project. The actual impact of the 11¢ increase on a \$300,00.00 home is around \$33.00 a year or \$17 per tax bill.

Moderator Lang allowed Keith McBay from Bonnet Page Stone Construction Manager, to speak. The total cost number presented earlier cover all cost associated with the project. If the project was to pass today the next step is design. He addressed the cost of lumber and materials and concerns regarding the increase in cost. HL Turner understands that the project cannot exceed the cost. There is \$226,000 in contingencies in case of unexpected expenses.

Discussion:

Written testimony was read by Ray Masse for Craig Weissman who spoke in favor of supporting Article One.

Chief Hankard was allowed to speak as a non-resident and spoke in favor of the article. He stated this article addresses the safety needs of the department. Including privacy, evidence, HVAC system, weapons and ammunition. "This is a needs building, not a wants building"

Tim Grant spoke in favor the Article.

Rick Vachon asked about the contingency's money in the project. Jim Dick explained how the money is spent. Any money saved in the project will go back to the unassigned fund balance.

Paul Litchfield spoke in favor of the Article.

Linda Salatiello read written testimony from Tom Salatiello that stated his support of the article.

Stewart Dymont spoke in opposition to the Article due to best agricultural soil in the Belknap County, limitation on leeching, the location of the project and to the topography of the project.

Debbie Morrow spoke in opposition to the Article.

Nancy Durgin spoke in favor of the Article.

Sandra Lasalandra spoke in favor to the Article.

George Murray spoke in favor of the Article.

Fletcher Lokey asked why was the field chosen for the project. Dick responded that the land was purchased in 2006 purposely for a new town office building.

John Heath asked to move the Article. Moderator Lang said he would move it after the last speaker.

Ben Wilson asked what happens when the bond expires? Will the tax rate go down? Jim Dick responded that this a level principal bond with a fixed interest rate. By the last year of the bond the interest rate will be down to 7(seven) cent increase over the tax rate today. After ten years it will be paid off.

Melanie VanTassel spoke in favor of the Article and highlighted the importance of addressing accessibility issues at the Town Office.

Moderator Lang opened ballot voting at 11:40am. It was the only ballot vote open for the duration of the vote. Polls closed at 12:41pm (Ballot Vote), and a total of 285 Ballots were cast. Yes - 244 No – 41. There was no motion to reconsider the vote.

171 Votes required to pass. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared Article #1 as read passed by 3/5 majority vote required.

Moderator Lang stated as the polls need to be open for an hour for Article One, he will take Articles out of order to move the meeting along.

Article 10 – Amendments to the Transfer Station Ordinance

To see if the Town will vote to approve the amendments proposed to the Town's Transfer Station Ordinance, dated June 1, 1988. Copies of the entire ordinance are available for review at the Town Office or on the Town website, and at the Town Meeting.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Selectmen

Moved by Selectman Robert Lambert

Second by Selectman James Dick

Selectman James Dick spoke to Article 10. The Transfer station ordinances were created in 1988. The ordinance has not been updated since then. This updated ordinance will bring the Transfer Station up to date up with its operating permit and add rigor behind commercial haulers.

There being no further discussion the Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared Article #10 passes.

Article 11 – Petitioned Warrant Article

New Hampshire Resolution for Nonpartisan Fair Redistricting

By petition of 25 or more eligible voters of the town of Sanbornton to see if the town will vote to urge that the New Hampshire General Court, which is obligated to redraw the maps of political districts within the state following the federal census, will ensure fair and effective representation of New Hampshire voters without gerrymandering. Additionally, these voters ask the town of Sanbornton to urge the NH General Court to carry out the redistricting in a fair and transparent way through public meetings, not to favor a particular political party, to include communities of interest, and to minimize multi-seat districts. The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice from town officials to Sanbornton's state legislators, informing them of the demands from their constituents within 30 days of the vote.

Moved by Lynn Chong

Second by John Heath

Lynn Chong Spoke to the Article 11. This warrant article is going around the State and this is an opportunity that happens every ten years after the census for redistricting. This is a nonpartisan issue and redistricting should be a fair open process.

Moderator Lang spoke to the Article as our State Representative and explained how the process works. There will be public hearings and will be live streamed so everyone can follow the process. Lang urged people to support this Article.

There being no further discussion the Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared Article 11 passes.

Article 6 – Highway Truck Lease Payment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Two Dollars (\$38,702) to make the Fiscal Year 21 payment on the lease for the truck designated as Highway Department Truck #1, with said amount to come from the Town’s Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount is to be raised through taxation. Appropriations under this warrant article are not included in the Operating Budget previously voted upon under Article 3 or the Capital Outlay total voted upon under Article 4.

(Majority vote required)

This Warrant Article is designated as a Special Warrant Article.

Recommended by the Selectmen – Recommended by the Budget Committee (7 - Yes, 0 - No)

Moved by Selectman John Olmstead

Second by Selectman James Dick

Selectmen James Dick spoke to Article 6. The lease for the truck was approved at the 2019 Town Meeting. The payment for FY 21 it will come out of the unassigned fund balance and will not impact the tax rate.

There being no further discussion the Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared Article 6 passes

Article 7 – Transfer to Capital Reserve Funds

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$1,090,000) to be added to the Capital Reserve Funds, previously established, as follows:

(Majority vote required)

This Warrant Article is designated as a Special Warrant Article.

Recommended by the Selectmen – Recommended by the Budget Committee (7 - Yes, 0 - No)

DRA Account	Account Name	Budget Committee Recommendation	Selectmen's Recommendation
4915.100	Town Building Improvements	\$160,000	\$160,000
4915.110	Town Facilities Repair & Refurbish	\$50,000	\$50,000
4915.120	Milfoil/Phosphorous Reduction	\$0	\$0
4915.130	Old Town Hall Repair & Restoration	\$0	\$0
4915.300	Fire Truck	\$90,000	\$90,000
4915.400	Heavy Equip - Hwy (Incl Road Eval)	\$35,000	\$35,000
4915.500	Fire Truck Repair & Refurbish	\$10,000	\$10,000
4915.800	Road/Bridge Construction	\$700,000	\$700,000
4915.TBD	Transfer Station	\$45,000	\$45,000
Total Transfer To Capital Reserve Funds		\$1,090,000	\$1,090,000

Moved by Selectman James Dick

Second by Selectman John Olmstead

Selectmen James Dick spoke to Article 7. This budget looks a lot different than past year.

The Board of Selectmen, Budget Committee and CIP Committee decided to fund road maintenance differently this year. Road maintenance has been in the operating budget. This presents challenges in spending the money in a fiscal year. By moving the money to the capital reserve fund, we are able to keep any unspent money and it will not go back to the general fund. The money will be used for road maintenance as it was voted on. It keeps the money in the highways and roads.

Moderator Lang asked a clarifying question. If you do not get a project completed in the fiscal year the money will be available for the next year. Selectmen Dick replied “correct”

Fletcher Lokey asked what happens if you have more work and you overrun the budget.

Selectmen James Dick responded we run on a bottom-line budget. If one Department goes over we are able to move from other lines to cover the cost. The Town is not allowed to expend money over the voted budget.

There being no further discussion the Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared Article 7 passes.

Article 8 – Transfer to Expendable Trust Funds

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be added to the Expendable Trust Funds, previously established, as follows:

(Majority vote required)

This Warrant Article is designated as a Special Warrant Article.

Recommended by the Selectmen – Recommended by the Budget Committee (7 - Yes, 0 - No)

DRA Account	Account Name	Budget Committee Recommendation	Selectmen's Recommendation
4916.TBD	Employee Severance Benefits	\$20,000	\$20,000
Total Transfer To Expendable Trust Funds		\$20,000	\$20,000

Moved by Selectman John Olmstead

Second by Selectman Robert Lambert

Selectmen John Olmstead spoke to Article 8. This Trust Fund is used to cover when employees leave service from the Town. This money will help cover unexpected departure of an employee.

Nancy Durgin asked if it was standard practices to pay employee out for unused sick time.

Selectmen James Dick explained the compensation package Town employees receive when they end their service to the Town.

Nancy Durgin said she didn’t believe that paying sick time was standard practice and would like to volunteer to be part of a committee to study the Town’s personnel policies. Moderator Lang said she could approach the Board of Selectmen with her offer.

There being no further discussion the Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared Article #8 passes.

Article 4 – Capital Outlay

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Forty-Eight Thousand Six Hundred Fifty-Four Dollars (\$148,654) for the following Capital Outlay purposes:

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Selectmen – Recommended by the Budget Committee (7 - Yes, 0 - No)

DRA Account	Account Name	Budget Committee Recommendation	Selectmen's Recommendation
<u>4902</u>	<u>Machinery, Vehicles & Equipment</u>		
4902.122	Fire SCBA (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus)	\$39,000	\$39,000
4902.304	DPW Truck 5 Lease	\$21,051	\$21,051
4902.310	DPW Truck 3 Lease	\$33,725	\$33,725
4902.312	DPW Truck 4 Lease	\$16,175	\$16,175
4902.315	DPW Truck 1 Lease	<u>\$38,702</u>	<u>\$38,702</u>
	Subtotal	\$148,653	\$148,653
<u>4909</u>	<u>Improvements Other Than Buildings</u>		
4909.000	Town Roads	\$1	\$1
Total Capital Outlays		\$148,654	\$148,654

Moved by Selectman James Dick

Second by Selectman Robert Lambert

Selectman James Dick spoke to Article 4. Dick explained you can see truck lease payment for FY22 is included and the \$600K for road maintenance was reduced to \$1.00.

Earl Leighton asked why Truck #4 appears in Article 4 and Article #6. Selectmen Dick explained that Article 6 covers the payment for FY21 that was inadvertently left out of the budget. Article #4 is for next year’s budget.

There being no further discussion the Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared Article #4 passes.

Article 12 – Other Business

To transact such other business that may legally come before the Town Meeting.

Faith Tobin spoke about her State of NH Float that her husband made. Her family would like to donate it to the Town of Sanbornton. She will be forming a committee to build a structure to house this beautiful float.

Shelia Kufert said Sanbornton Old Home Day Saturday, July 10th. There are lots of activities planned. There are forms for vendors and t-shirts sponsors. There also a raffle for a quilt and tickets will be \$20.00 each.

Lynn Chong would like to discuss the cover of this year's Town Report. Selectmen James Dick explained that the Board felt that this year all of the Town employees deserved to be recognized for how they responded to the COVID crisis. Thank you to Mary Baxter for taking many of the photos and coming out with the cover layout.

Julie Lonergan stated the Town Clerk & Tax Collector is open with no appointments needed. She also reminded voters to register their dogs.

Heather Goodwin wanted to thank the Town employees and volunteers who keep everything going thru the COVID.

Selectmen James Dick said the Town is looking for a Town Hall Steward to take on an inventory of what needs to be done to the hall. There is money in Trust Fund to address some of the issues. If you are interested, please reach out to the BOS.

Moderator Lang state the Zoning Board has two openings if anyone is interested, please reach out to the BOS.

State Representative Lang says there is unexpected large revenue large surplus. Meals and Rooms tax revenue is down, but the State will be returning a higher percentage of the collected tax back to towns, so the impact should be reduced.

Fletcher Lokey asked who is our health officer. Selectman Dick said his name is Mike Capsalis.

At this point, Moderator Lang read the results of the vote on Article 1.

Motion: Selectmen James Dick made a motion to restrict reconsideration of Article 1, seconded by Selectman John Olmstead. The motion passes. The vote was in the affirmative.

Article 2 – Pre-payment of Promissory Note

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$52,000) to pay the outstanding Fiscal Year 2023 balance (principal and interest) on the promissory note held by the State of New Hampshire Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund, with said amount to come from the Town's Unassigned Fund Balance. No amount is to be raised through taxation. Appropriations under this warrant article are not included in the Operating Budget to be voted upon under Article 3.

(Majority vote required)

This Warrant Article is designated as a Special Warrant Article.

Recommended by the Selectmen – Recommended by the Budget Committee (7 - Yes, 0 - No)

Moved by Selectman Robert Lambert

Second by Selectman James Dick

Selectman James Dick spoke to Article 2. This Article allows the Town to use the unassigned fund balance to pay off the bond early, and use that funding to apply to the new bond payment going forward. This will avoid having to increase the tax burden by that amount, since the payment is already in the tax rate.

There being no further discussion the Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared Article #2 passes.

Motion:

It was **moved** by Phil Smith and **seconded** by Peter Sandstrom to reorder the warrant. Article 9 be put before Article 3.

There being no further discussion the Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared Article 9 will be placed before Article 3.

Article 9 – Creation of Full-time Deputy Fire Chief Position

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ninety-Nine Thousand dollars (\$99,000) for all salary and benefits for a Full Time Deputy Fire Chief/EMS Coordinator for the Town of Sanbornton. This will be a transition from a part time position to full time salaried (exempt) position due to the retirement of the current part time Deputy Fire Chief/EMS Coordinator. Appropriations under this warrant article are not included in the Operating Budget total previously voted under Article 3.

(Majority vote required)

This Warrant Article is designated as a Special Warrant Article.

Recommended by the Selectmen – Recommended by the Budget Committee (65 - Yes, 108 - No)

Moved by Selectman John Olmstead

Second by Selectman James Dick

Fire Chief Paul Dexter spoke to the Article. Chief Dexter explained his part time Deputy will be retiring and he will need to fill this position. Current volunteer and full-time members cannot fill all the hours required for this position. The State of NH has changed the retirement rules and employees who are collecting retirement are now capped at 26 hours a week. This position needs more than 26 hours per week, which means a retiree with the right experience can't be hired. This has been an issue for the past years. Scott Taylor will be greatly missed and hard shoes to fill.

Ray Masse presented written testimony from Craig Weisman who is not in favor of Article 9. "I cannot support this Article as the cost is too much for the town. I prefer to keep the position as a part time position."

Nancy Durgin asked if we pass the full-time position what happen to the part-time money in the budget. Chief Dexter stated the DRA requires us to budget for the full amount for the first year. In the second year, the net increase will drop to about \$50K. Nancy Durgin asked for a follow up: Is the part time money still in the budget? If we vote yes for the full-time position, can we reduce the operating budget? Lang answered with yes, but it would require a written amendment.

Ray Masse asked the Chief do you have a plan for a 6-month training for an overlap to train the new position? The Chief said the current deputy will help train the new deputy Chief. It might take up to four months at reduced hours.

George Murray spoke in favor of the Article 9.

Lynn Chong asked for comment from those on the Budget Committee that supported this Article.

Bob Presby Budget Committee member was in favor of the new Full Time Deputy position. It's vital to replace this important position.

Kate Osgood, Budget Committee member voted to support the Full Time Deputy. She felt they needed the position.

Ralph Rathjen: Budget Committee member is not in favor of the article. 10 years ago, there was only 1 FT person and now we have 3 FT position plus a PT secretary. The Town's population has not grown in population in the past years. The NH State Retirement system has raised the cost share to 70%.

Ray Masse, BC member was not in favor of this Article. There were not merit raises in this year's budget for any Town Employees and he didn't think it was fair to add a new position.

Jim Evans spoke in favor of the Article. He said it will be hard to replace the current Deputy. The Department needs a solid person in that position. We all depends on the EMS. Training and responsibility are crucial to the department. A full-time person would be best.

Lang allowed Chief Hankard to speak. Chief Hankard spoke in favor of this Article. Scott Taylor is a force and he will be hard to replace. The work load he does is more than a part time position.

Mark Liebl asked to the body "what is the vison" he asked that the Town come up with a plan on how we move forward on spending.

Andrew Sanborn addressed how many volunteers we currently have and are we expecting too much of the few they have.

Julie Lonergan asked how much does this Article this article impacts the tax rate. Jim Dick answered that it's about eighteen cents on the tax rate this year but it will drop to eight or nine cents next year when the part time position is eliminated.

Moderator Lang stated has received a requested a secret ballot vote on Article 9 with 15 signatures verified by the supervisors of the checklist as registered voters in attendance.

Moderator Lang opened ballot voting at 1:33pm.

173 Ballots were cast. Yes - 65 No -108

Article 9 Failed

Article 3 - Operating Budget – Town

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Million Two Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand One Hundred One Dollars (\$4,255,101) for general municipal operations as recommended by the Budget Committee. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Selectmen – Recommended by the Budget Committee (7 - Yes, 0 - No)

DRA Account	Account Name	Budget Committee Recommendation	Selectmen's Recommendation
4130 - 4199	General Government	\$1,139,343	\$1,139,343
4210	Police Department	\$653,338	\$653,338
4220 - 4299	Fire Department & Emergency Mgmt	\$605,229	\$605,229
4311 - 4319	Highways & Streets	\$980,078	\$980,078
4321 - 4329	Sanitation	\$370,269	\$370,269
4411 - 4449	Health & Welfare	\$112,397	\$112,397
4520	Recreation	\$124,371	\$124,371
4550	Library	\$164,363	\$164,363
4583 - 4589	Patriotic Purposes & Other Culture	\$2,851	\$2,851
4611 - 4659	Conservation	\$2,347	\$2,347
4711 - 4799	Debt Service	\$100,516	\$100,516
Total Operating Budget		\$4,255,101	\$4,255,101

Moved by Ray Masse

Second by Selectman John Olmstead

Ray Masse spoke to the Article 3. This year there is a decrease in the operating budget of \$77,000. There were uncontrollable increases in transportation cost for Transfer Station, Recreation dept. no program due to COVID so their revenues were decreased significantly. The NH Retirement increased by 105-26% for around \$70,000 increase. Medical insurance increased by 6%. In this budget is a 1.4% cola increase for all employees. Despite these budgets increased we were still able to come in under last year's budget due to some very hard work by the Department Heads.

Discussion: There was no discussion on Article 3.

There being no further discussion the Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared Article 1 passes.

Article 5 - Police Pickup Truck

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Eight Thousand Dollars (\$48,000) for the purchase and set up of a Police Pickup Truck. This cost includes purchase of the vehicle, purchase/updating/installing any equipment needed, installation of existing equipment, decommissioning a truck in order to send it to auction or for trade, with the funds received to be used to offset the costs of the vehicle.

(Majority vote required)

Recommended by the Selectmen – Recommended by the Budget Committee (7 - Yes, 0 - No)

Moved by Selectmen John Olmstead

Second by Selectman Robert Lambert

Moderator Lang allowed Chief Steve Hankard to speak to Article 5 with no opposition from the legislative body. This will replace the 2014 F150 which has 104,000 miles and is not pursuit- \rated. The new truck is pursuit-vehicle certified.

Discussion: None

There being no further discussion the Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared Article 5 passes.

Motion: Andrew Sanborn made a **motion** to restrict reconsideration of all previous Articles, **seconded** by Selectman, John Olmstead. **The motion passes.** The vote was in the affirmative.

Reopened Article 12.

Selectmen James Dick thanked all the people involved and helping out to make today happen.

Moderator Lang explained that he worked with the BOS on today's meeting date. The meeting date was set in December as COVID daily case numbers were high in January - 847 per day in the State - and to make a safe meeting today's date was set.

The funding for today's meeting came from grants from the State of NH and your local tax dollars did not cover the cost.

A **motion** was made by Selectmen John Olmstead to adjourn, **seconded** by Selectman Lambert.

The Moderator called for the vote. It was in the affirmative and the Moderator declared the meeting adjourned at 1:41pm

Respectfully Submitted by,

Juliana Lonergan

Town Clerk / Tax Collector

Selectboard Clerk: _____

Approval Date 5.26.2021